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SOURCE Meditsinskoye Voprosnik. No 4, 1950.

SCORES FAILURE TO ANALYZE
NEW THERAPEUTIC AGENTS

In 1949, many new medical preparations were put onto production and made available to the consumer public. For example, there was a special ointment developed by V. G. Gordiyev, Stanislov, which proved effective in curing and malignant skin growths. A Stalin Prize was awarded to N. G. Pelenkiy for obtaining a new serum which can be substituted for human plasma. Professor Shostakovskiy developed a special type of balsam ointment, etc.

However, the Soviet medical system has its faulty aspects. One of the most glaring examples is the procedure being followed for the analysis of new therapeutic agents. The USSR has made available to the Soviet medical specialists and the Soviet inventors some of the most modern and best-equipped research and physical analysis laboratories. Nevertheless, there are cases where medicinal preparations are placed into mass production without any laboratory tests. For example, Prof L. A. Emdin of the Leningrad Pathological Institute developed a new medicinal preparation for treating tuberculosis. The "Farmakon" Factory began producing this medicine, and it was not until recently that Emdin considered it necessary to comply with some rather formal regulations and submit his medicine for laboratory analysis.

M. A. Aliyev, chief surgeon at Sochi, had very unsatisfactory experience with laboratories. He developed a new antiseptic solution for washing infected trauma. The Scientific Medical Council of the Ministry of Public Health USSR recommended that this antiseptic be tested by the Institute of Immunology, Shostakovskiy. A year has elapsed, and Aliyev has not heard from the institute as to the acceptability of his preparations.

There is a notable lack of cooperation between some scientific and research institutes and factories. The Khar'kov "Zlotoye Trodreshchikova" Chemico-pharmaceutical Factory was given the order for the production of some tissue preparations developed by Academician A. P. Filatov. The factory is taking a proper approach to the matter of setting up its production line, and has requested aid from the Odessa Ophthalmological Institute. The institute however, apparently, has chosen to ignore the request for aid with the result that production has not started.

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However, the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, its institutes and branches, carry theory into practice. The Institute of Biochemistry has synthesized a series of amino acids which are now being effectively used in clinics throughout the USSR. The Surgical Institute named A. V. Vishnevsky has made new strides in the technology of local anesthesia and breast surgery.

But the achievements of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR are not enough. The demands of the nation are great and never satisfied. With that in mind, the Academy should constantly strive to improve and expand its services to Soviet public health. It is particularly important that its biological and clinical institutes emphasize the development of Pavlov's studies. The necessity of a better understanding of Pavlov's theories is evident and the fact that it would be possible to control the actions of an organism.

The final authority, as far as guaranteeing the unity of Soviet theory and practice is concerned, is the Scientific Medical Council, Ministry of Public Health USSR. It is the duty of this body to exert to do all that should be taken in the development of medicinal preparations, and to see that valuable preparations are placed into production and made available to the consumer public.

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